Message Text

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PAGE 01	SANTIA 09223 220901Z
6 ACTION ARA	10
INFO OCT-01	ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SS-15 PRS-01
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FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO	

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1476

E. O. 11652: N/A TAGS: SGEN, CI

SUBJECT: VISIT OF SELF-STYLED PHILANTHROPIST CHARLES J. LOCICERO

- 1. DURING LAST TWO WEEKS CHILEAN PRESS HAS CARRIED FREQUENT NEWS REPORTS CONCERNING VISIT TO CHILE OF CHARLES J. LOCICERO, WHO ASSERTS THAT HE IS A PASADENA PHILANTHROPIST AND COLLECTOR OF CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS FOR ASSISTANCE IN OTHER COUNTRIES. AT HIS REQUEST, MR. LOCICERO CALLED ON THE AMBASSADOR SEPTEMBER 21.
- 2. IN A RAMBLING CONVERSATION, LOCICERO CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR DELIVERING A 200 BED "PACKAGE HOSPITAL DISPENSING"UNIT" TO BAJA CALIFORNIA, MEXICO AND SPOKE EXPANSIVELY OF OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS INCLUDING SUPPLIES OF MEAT TO MEXICO AND MEDICAL EQUIPMENT TO GUATEMALA FOLLOWING THE RECENT EARTHQUAKE. HE CLAIMED TO HAVE HAD NO THANKS FROM THE MEXICANS FOR HIS EFFORTS. COULD NOT BE PINNED DOWN ON WHY HE HAD BECOME INTERESTED IN CHILE, BUT ASSERTED THAT ON BASIS OF HIS STAY HERE HE COULD SEE THAT THERE WAS NO BRUTALITY AND THAT GOVERNMENT WAS DOING GOOD WORK WHICH SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED IN U.S.
- 3. LOCICERO MADE TWO REQUESTS OF AMBASSADOR. FIRST, HE ASKED IF U.S. EMBASSY WOULD ISSUE PRESS RELEASE ON HIS INTERVIEW WITH THE AMBASSADOR, TO ASSIST HIM IN IMPROVING THE GOC IMAGE IN THE U.S. AMBASSADOR DECLINED, EXPLAINING THAT EMBASSY ENGAGED IN NO PUBLIC RELATIONS ACTIVITY EXCEPT THAT DIRECTLY ON BEHALF OF U.S. GOVERNMENT. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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4. SECOND, LOCICERO ASKED FOR USG ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING A USED PACKAGE HOSPITAL DISPENSING UNIT FOR CONTRIBUTION TO CHILE.

AMBASSADOR SAID WE WERE IN NO POSITION TO DO THIS AND SUGGESTED LOCICERO TAKE MATTER UP WITH U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES IN WASHINGTON IF HE SOUGHT TO PURSUE IT.

5. LOCICERO SAID HE WAS ARRIVING IN LOS ANGELES SEPTEMBER 22 AND WOULD BE MEETING WITH HIS "PUBLIC RELATIONS ADVISERS" IMMEDIATELY. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE ANY BACKGROUND INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON LOCICERO.

6. MEMCON POUCHED ARA/BC. POPPER

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Message Attributes

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